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FILES SHOW F.B.I. RIFT WITH WARREN PANEL

Newly Released Data on Inquiry Into President Kennedy Slaying Tell of Mistrust and Feuds

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (UPI)—Relations between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Warren Commission were so bad that the bureau spied on the panel's investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy and the panel suspected the F.B.I. of concealing old links with Lee Harvey Oswald, newly released files disclosed today.

The feud, heightened by enmity between J. Edgar Hoover, F.B.I. Director and Chief Justice Earl Warren, led the bureau to rely on an informant, then-Representative Gerald R. Ford, inside the panel and caused Mr. Hoover to complain that Chief Justice Warren had made a needless uncomplimentary remark about the bureau.

At another point, Mr. Hoover agreed to censor some material supplied by the Central Intelligence Agency about Oswald's movements in Mexico before giving it to the commission. Some members of the commission, in turn, questioned whether Oswald had been an informer for the bureau, although in the end they decided that he had not.

50,604 Pages Released

The hostility and discord underlying the inquiry into the Kennedy assassination came to light with the release of 50,604 pages of censored investigative files of the bureau and 8,150 pages of its memorandums to the Warren Commission.

Like the previous 40,000 pages released in December, the new ones corroborated the finding of the Warren panel that Oswald alone had killed President Kennedy and Jack Ruby alone had killed Oswald.

They showed that Mr. Hoover had recommended that finding to the commission about two weeks after the assassination of President Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas. And, like the earlier files, they provide numerous details.

The new files show, for example, that Oswald's wife, Marina, locked him in the bathroom of their Dallas apartment in April 1963 when he began saying that he intended to kill Richard M. Nixon, whom he mistakenly thought to be in town that day. Mr. Hoover speculated that Mr. Nixon must have been confused with Vice President Johnson, who was in Dallas.

Numerous Leads Followed

The new materials also continue the account of the bureau's exhaustive pursuit of tips and leads, no matter how bizarre, from such informants as a mentally unstable woman in Cuba, a drunken Aztec Indian and a Bavarian cab driver.

They also show that Mr. Hoover and his men battled privately with anyone who challenged their competence or exclusive authority over the Kennedy investigation, calling Nicholas de B. Katzenbach, Deputy Attorney General, a liar, scoffing at investigations carried out by Texas officials and the New Orleans District Attorney, Jim Garrison, and battling with the Warren Commission over news leaks.

None of that, however, deterred the Warren panel from endorsing the finding of no conspiracy recommended to them by Mr. Hoover in his first report to the newly formed commission.

Dated Dec. 7, 1963, it said:

"The F.B.I. has made an exhaustive investigation into whether Oswald may have conspired with or been assisted by any person, foreign or domestic, in carrying out this dastardly act.

"No evidence has been uncovered indicating that any person, including Dallas nightclub owner, Jack Ruby, was involved with Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy."

Mr. Hoover recommended that early finding privately to the commission even though, just days earlier, he had quashed a Justice Department recommendation that the Government make a similar statement officially to head off public unrest.

Finding Reconfirmed

Then, five days before the Warren report was issued in September 1964, Mr. Hoover reconfirmed his finding and stated, in a note for his own files, "we have left no stone unturned."

The rivalry between the F.B.I. and the commission stemmed in part from the leak of Mr. Hoover's original report to the press, with each side accusing the other, and from the suspicion of members of the Warren Commission that Oswald had been acting as an F.B.I. spy while he was in the Soviet Union from 1959 to 1962.

The files show that the bureau had somehow obtained the transcript of a confidential emergency meeting the Warren panel held on Jan. 22, 1964, to discuss, in the words of an F.B.I. analyst, "information to the effect Lee Harvey Oswald was a bureau informant in Russia."

The discussion shows that members of the commission felt that the bureau would not admit that Oswald had been an undercover agent, the bureau's review said, thereby undermining the commission's confidence in the investigation by the bureau.

The bureau's memorandum said that Mr. Hoover eventually convinced the commission that Oswald had not been an informant or agent of the bureau and was never paid any money by the bureau.

Ford's Role Described

Mr. Ford's role as a trusted bureau informant within the panel was described in a series of memorandums filed by a deputy of Mr. Hoover, Cartha DeLoach, in December 1963, when the commission had just been formed.

On Dec. 12, Mr. DeLoach said that Mr. Ford then a Republican Representative from Michigan, had called him to his office in the strictest confidence, expressed displeasure at the way Chief Justice Warren was running the inquiry and indicated that "he would keep me thoroughly advised as to the activities of the commission, on a confidential basis.

One week later, on Dec. 19, Mr. DeLoach said that Mr. Ford had briefed him on a private commission meeting the day before at which the panel discussed the news leak of Mr. Hoover's confidential Dec. 7 progress report.

There was no criticism of the bureau at the meeting, Mr. DeLoach reported.

There were no allegations made by anyone, including the Chief Justice, he went on, that the bureau had leaked portions of the report.

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